

# North Haven Public Schools

## North Haven, Connecticut 06473

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North Haven Public Schools  
Board of Education Meeting  
Minutes

Regular Meeting/Special Meeting  
Thursday, November 12, 2015 6:30 p.m.  
5 Linsley Street, North Haven, CT 06473

Attendance: Anita Anderson, Wesley O'Brien, Randi Petersen, Bryan Bogen, Jennifer Cecarelli, Matthew Kerzner, Goldie Adele, Dorothy Logan, Ed Arum, Interim Director of Finance, Operations, and Human Resources, Melinda McKenna, Assistant Superintendent, and Robert D. Cronin, Superintendent of Schools.

Jennifer Caldwell was absent.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Consent Agenda
  1. Minutes October 8, 2015
  2. Request for additional time for maternity leave for Jinny Summerville, Grade 2 Teacher, Clintonville

Moved: to approve the Consent Agenda

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner  
SECOND: Goldie Adele  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

- III. Board of Education Student Representatives Reports

Information Item

Larissa introduced Celeste Battataglia, who will be the new Student Representative. Celeste is a junior at North Haven High School. Larissa reported:

- It is the end of the first marking period
- 2/3 of students at NHHS made the honor roll
- Early action is November 1 for students who applied
- Senior to Senior Breakfast is December 2, 2015 @ 8 a.m. at NHHS

Celeste reported:

- Yale New Haven Children's Hospital Toy Drive is happening now at NHHS
- Student Council is doing a food drive for the North Haven Food Pantry
- NHHS play The Miracle Worker was last weekend and a huge success
- Interact Club is helping the North Haven Food Bank

- IV. Report of the Board of Education Chairperson or Designee

Information Item

Mrs. Anderson congratulated Dorothy Logan on her win on the Board of Education and welcomed her, as well as Randi Petersen and Wesley O'Brien. Mrs. Anderson also welcomed Ed Arum as the Interim Director of Finance, Operations and Human Resources.

- V. Unfinished Business
- VI. New Business
- VII. Reports of Standing Committees

1. ACES

Information Item

Mrs. Logan reported there was a speaker from the Freedom of Information Commission speaking to public records, meetings and minutes, and requests for FOI's etc. She also stated that ACES is in the process negotiation the purchase of the John Slate Ely House. Mrs. Logan has been asked to be on the negotiation team for administrators and has accepted.

## 2. Athletics

Information Item

Mrs. Petersen reported that there was no meeting therefore, no report. The next meeting will be December 1, 2015.

## 3. Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning

Information Item

Mrs. McKenna, Mrs. Bass, Language Arts Program Coordinator, and Mrs. Romberg, Mathematics Program Coordinator gave an overview of the Smarter Balanced Assessment, and the results that the district has received. Mrs. Bass and Mrs. Romberg explained what action steps they were going to take to help the students improve on their scores.

Curriculum, Instruction and Planning met on October 26, 2015 and Mrs. McKenna reported:

- Nature's Classroom:  
The elementary principals shared their current and past experiences with Nature's Classroom, as well as activity that they do in place of Nature's Classroom at Montowese and Clintonville. Fundraising and scholarships were also discussed. The group decided to develop surveys for parents, students and teachers. Mrs. McKenna will work on some draft surveys to share with principals at our next Elementary Principals' Meeting and with the C & I Committee at our December meeting.
- New Club Proposals:  
Model UN- Approved pending signature sheet of students interested in participating being submitted.  
Debate Club- Approved  
Ski Club- Denied- Due to concerns about liability.  
Health Careers Club- Approved pending signature sheet of students interested in participating being submitted.
- Field Trip Requests:  
2016 Music Department Trip- Washington, D.C.- Approved  
International Future Problem Solving Conference- Michigan State University- Approved

- a. Approval of NHHS Music Department annual field trip to Washington, D.C. April 14-17, 2016

Moved: to approve the NHHS Music Department annual field trip to Washington D.C.  
April 14-17, 2016

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien  
SECOND: Randi Petersen  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

- b. Approval of FPS Field trip to Michigan State University  
June 6-15, 2016

Moved: to approve the FPS field trip to Michigan State University June 6-15, 2016

Approved

MOVED: Randi Petersen  
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

## 4. Finance and Operations

Information Item

Mr. Bogen reported:

- Ed Arum is in as Interim Director of Finance, Operations and Human Resources
- Interviews are ongoing to find a permanent Director
- Budgets have been requested from the schools and are due back on December 3, 2015 as we enter into a new budget season
- Current budget is right on track for this time of year

5. Middle School Building Committee

Information Item

Mr. Adele reported:

- Everything is on schedule regarding construction.
- Some minor decision have been made, such as color of bricks on the outside of the building.
- No decision has been made regarding the solar panels.

6. North Haven Education Foundation

Information Item

Mr. Kerzner reported that creativity grants were discussed.

- Three creativity grants that were discussed. They were the Robotics Project submitted by Christian Johnson, NHHS Teacher, an Advanced Writing Project submitted by Peter Sagnella, NHHS English Teacher, which will also include the AP Art students at NHHS, and lastly a Westpoint field trip for the NHMS boys basketball team submitted by Mr. Proto
- Spelling Bee is scheduled for April 28, 2016
- The next North Haven Education Foundation Meeting is December 9, 2015

7. Policy

a. Rescind Current Series #7000

Moved: to Rescind Current Series #7000

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner  
SECOND: Jennifer Cecarelli  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

b. Adoption of Series #4000

Moved: to adopt Series #4000

Approved

MOVED: Wesley O'Brien  
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

8. PTA Council

Information Item

Mrs. Cecarelli reported:

The North Haven PTA Council met on October 19, 2015 in the NHHS Library conference room. Representatives from the following groups were present and provided reports:

- NHHS Student Council
- NHEA
- NHMS PTSA
- Ridge Road PTA
- Clintonville PTA

1) NHHS Student Council shared that they had a successful "Club Week", which is designed to highlight all of the various clubs and activities available to students. Students are able to meet representatives from each club, and learn more about the types of activities they offer. They have a food drive coming up on Dec. 7-11. There is currently another food drive being held by the Interact Club, in preparation for Thanksgiving. They held a Fall Courtyard event on 10/30, where the courtyard hosted some relaxed lunchtime activities and cider for students. Their pep rally is coming up on the day before Thanksgiving. The Senior-to-Senior breakfast will be held on 12/2, and the class of 2016 is hosting a "Five Below" Fundraiser the week before Christmas.

2) NHMS PTSA shared that they hosted two successful presentations, including Scott Driscoll's presentation on Internet safety, and a one-man show entitled "Bully" which had a strong, positive impact on many students. They are working with several fundraisers, including Crystalline, Cookie Dough, Spirit Wear, BJ's Membership percentages, and collecting Box Tops for education. They are also in the process of working with staff to refine the PBIS program, and supply rewards for "B Bucks".

3) Ridge Road shared several fundraising efforts and school activities. Fundraising efforts included: Lyman Orchards pie sale, and the Scholastic Book Fair. The school also hosted a Halloween Fun Night, and a "Try-a-thon", which was an obstacle course activity that doubled as a fundraiser for the school.

4) The NHEA shared that they are excited to work with the PTA Council on Make a Difference Day, as well as looking ahead to the budget process.

Make a Difference Day was the first major undertaking of the new PTA Council Executive Board, and it was an outstanding day. Students, teachers, families, and community members took on several initiatives at many of our schools. In addition to beautification projects such as clearing a courtyard at the middle school, raking and adding mulch and planters at some schools, and sprucing up the entryway to Ridge Road School, folks made tied fleece blankets, friendship bracelets/kits, and cards for children in the Yale-New Haven hospital.

The next PTA Council meeting will be on November 30th at 7:00 in the NHHS Library Conference room. All are invited to attend.

#### VIII. Staff Communications

##### A. Superintendent's Report

Information Item

##### 1. Approval of the 2015-2016 Teacher/Administrator Evaluation Plan

Moved: to approve the 2015-2016 Teacher/Administrator Evaluation Plan

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner  
SECOND: Goldie Adele  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

##### 2. Director of Finance and Operations Search

Information Item

Mr. Bogen reported:

- There were 10 applicants for the position for Director of Finance, Operations and Human Resources. The posting is still open and will remain so until filled. The committee has interviewed some candidates this week, with more coming in next week. The committee members are Dr. Cronin, Russ Dallai, Melinda McKenna, Bryan Bogen, Ed Arum, and Dana Corriveau. There is an Initial interview, second interview with performance task and then a final interview with the Board of Education.

##### 3. Snow Day/School Cancellations

Information Item

Dr. Cronin explained his process for determining snow days/delayed opening and stated that a letter will go home next week referencing the procedure for school cancellations to clarify any questions and/or concerns parents may have.

##### 4. Enrollment

Information Item

##### B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

Information Item

##### C. Director of Finance and Operations

##### 1. Director of Finance and Operation's Report

Information Item

##### 2. Approval of the 2015-2016 Monthly Financial Report

Moved: to approve the 2015-2016 Monthly Financial Report

Approved

MOVED: Bryan Bogen  
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner

AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

3. Approval of the non-union raises of 2%

Moved: to approve the non-union raises of 2%

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner  
SECOND: Wesley O'Brien  
AYE: 7  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 1

Anita Anderson abstained because she was not at the last meeting when this matter was discussed

IX. Public Comment

- Grace Gavigan – RR parent commented regarding on the SBAC
- Holden Porrelli – SBAC comments

- X. Future Agenda Items  
XI. Executive Session – if needed  
XII. Adjournment

Discussion Item

Moved: to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Goldie Adele  
SECOND: Jennifer Cecarelli  
AYE: 8  
NAY: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,

***Anita Anderson***

Anita Anderson,  
Chairman